

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:

1. A wireless telephone system comprising:

means for determining a positional relationship between a wireless telephone and a vehicle;

means for defining a condition;

means for disabling one of the wireless telephone and the vehicle when the relationship satisfies the condition;

means for enabling the wireless telephone in a hands-free mode and the vehicle when a first mating unit associated with the wireless telephone and a second mating unit associated with the vehicle are united; and

means for operating the wireless telephone in the hands-free mode.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein the determining means comprises one or more location systems.
3. The system of claim 2, wherein one of the location systems is a GPS receiver.
4. The system of claim 2, wherein the location systems generate location information that pinpoints a first location of the wireless telephone and a second location of the vehicle.
5. The system of claim 1, wherein the determining means comprises a

speedometer adapted to detect a movement of the vehicle.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the condition indicates that the wireless telephone is located within the vehicle.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the condition further indicates that the vehicle is moving.

8. The system of claim 1, wherein the determining means comprises a transceiver adapted to detect a signal transmitted by the wireless telephone.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein the condition indicates that the wireless telephone is within a predetermined distance of the transceiver.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein the disabling means comprises a transceiver generating an interference disrupting wireless communication of the wireless telephone.

11. A wireless telephone system comprising:

a location system adapted to generate a first location information pinpointing a first location of a wireless telephone and a second location information pinpointing a second location of a vehicle;

a microprocessor adapted to determine a relationship between the first location and the second location, wherein if the relationship satisfies a predetermined

condition, the microprocessor disables one of the wireless telephone and the vehicle;
and

a first mating unit associated with the wireless telephone and a second mating unit associated with the vehicle, wherein when the first mating unit and the second mating unit are united, the microprocessor enables normal operation of the vehicle, and wherein the wireless telephone is enabled to operate in a hands-free mode.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the location system and the microprocessor are network-based components.

13. The system of claim 11, wherein the location system comprises two units, and wherein the first unit is associated with the wireless telephone and the second unit is associated with the vehicle.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein one or both of the first unit and the second unit are GPS receivers.

15. The system of claim 11, wherein the microprocessor is associated with the wireless telephone, and wherein the predetermined condition is stored in a memory accessible by the microprocessor.

16. The system of claim 11, wherein the microprocessor is associated with the vehicle, and wherein the predetermined condition is stored in a memory

accessible by the microprocessor.

17. The system of claim 16, further comprising an ignition system associated with the vehicle, wherein the microprocessor disables the ignition system when the predetermined condition is satisfied.

18. The system of claim 11, further comprising a speaker associated with the vehicle, wherein the hands-free mode involves outputting audio signals received by the wireless telephone on the speaker.

19. The system of claim 11, further comprising a speaker associated with the wireless telephone, wherein the hands-free mode involves outputting audio signals received by the wireless telephone on the speaker at an increased decibel level.

20. The system of claim 11, further comprising a voice module, wherein the voice module is adapted to receive voice commands for operation of the wireless telephone in the hands-free mode.

21. A wireless telephone system comprising:
a first mating unit associated with a wireless telephone;
a second mating unit associated with a vehicle, wherein the second mating unit is adapted to unite with the first mating unit;

a transceiver associated with the vehicle, wherein the transceiver creates an interference disabling the wireless telephone when a predetermined condition is satisfied and when the first mating unit and the second mating unit are not united; and

a speaker associated with one of the wireless telephone and the vehicle, wherein the speaker is adapted to output sound signals received by the wireless telephone during a hands-free mode when the first mating unit and the second mating unit are united.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein the condition indicates that the wireless telephone is located within the vehicle.

23. The system of claim 21, wherein the condition indicated that the wireless telephone is located within about two feet of the transceiver.

24. The system of claim 21, further comprising a switch in communication with the second mating unit, wherein the switch powers off the transceiver when the first mating unit and the second mating unit are united.

25. The system of claim 21, wherein the interference is calibrated to affect a space surrounding a driver seat of the vehicle.

26. A method for using a wireless telephone in a vehicle comprising the steps of:

monitoring a relationship between the wireless telephone and the vehicle;
determining whether the relationship constitutes an unsafe condition for simultaneous operation of the wireless telephone and the vehicle;
disabling one of the wireless telephone and the vehicle if the unsafe condition exists and a first mating unit associated with the wireless telephone is not united with a second mating unit associated with the vehicle; and
enabling normal operation of the vehicle and limiting operation of the wireless telephone to a hands-free mode when the first mating unit and the second mating unit are united.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein the relationship indicates that the wireless telephone is located within the vehicle.

28. The method of claim 26, further comprises the step of evaluating location information generated by a location system to determine the relationship.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein the location information comprises a first location of the wireless telephone and a second location of the vehicle.

30. The method of claim 26, further comprises the step of measuring a signal strength transmitted by the wireless telephone by a transceiver associated with the vehicle.

31. The method of claim 30, further comprising the step of creating an interference to disrupt wireless communication of the wireless telephone when the signal strength indicates that the wireless telephone is located within the vehicle.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein interference is calibrated to affect a space surrounding a driver seat of the vehicle.

33. A method for using a wireless telephone in a vehicle comprising the steps of:

detecting signals transmitted by the wireless telephone by a transceiver associated with the vehicle;

using the signals detected to determine whether the wireless telephone is located within the vehicle;

creating an interference to disrupt wireless communication of the wireless telephone if the wireless telephone is located with the vehicle; and

limiting operation of the wireless telephone to a hands-free mode when the first mating unit of the wireless telephone and a second mating unit of the vehicle are united.

34. The method of claim 33, further comprises the step of using a voice module to operate the wireless telephone during the hands-free mode.

35. The method of claim 33, wherein the interference affects a space

within two feet of the transceiver.

36. A method for using a wireless telephone in a vehicle comprising the steps of:

determining the presence of the wireless telephone within the vehicle;

preventing the vehicle from moving if the wireless telephone is engaged in a wireless communication session;

disabling the wireless telephone if the vehicle is moving; and

enabling normal operation of the vehicle and allowing operation of the wireless telephone if a first mating unit of the wireless telephone and a second mating unit of the vehicle are united.

37. The method of claim 36, wherein the determining step is performed by a location system.

38. The method of claim 36, wherein the determining step is performed by a transceiver.

39. The method of claim 36, wherein the preventing step is performed by a microprocessor that controls an ignition system of the vehicle.

40. The method of claim 36, wherein the disabling step is performed by a microprocessor that controls the wireless telephone.

41. The method of claim 36, wherein the disabling step is performed by a transceiver associated with the vehicle that creates an interference.

42. The method of claim 41, wherein the second mating unit is in communication with a switch that controls the transceiver.

43. A method for preventing unsafe operation of a vehicle comprising the steps of:

establishing a set of rules; and

disabling one of a vehicle and a wireless telephone if the set of rules is not followed.